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General Assembly
Security Council

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6 July 1993

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Items 34, 35, 85 and 86 of the
preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS
AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 6 July 1993 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Last week a report issued by Middle East Watch, a human rights group based in the United States, attested that Israeli soldiers operating in undercover units in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are in fact given "a license to kill" by their superiors in the army. It has been frequently reported by Palestinians and by human rights groups monitoring the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, that soldiers often gun down Palestinians even when their own lives are not threatened. The extensive findings of the group affirm that Israel is pursuing a policy of summary executions of Palestinians through such undercover operations.

This report and many other accounts reveal that Israeli soldiers have intentionally shot and killed many Palestinians who could have been taken alive. According to the Middle East Watch report, undercover squads have killed more than 120 Palestinians since the start of the intifadah (approximately half of those victims have been killed since January 1992). The shootings are usually undertaken by ambushing the victim without warning and with excessive force. As the report states, "in many cases the victims posed little or no grave danger to others, were given no opportunity to surrender and could in all possibility have

* A/48/50.

been captured alive". For example, of 20 deaths between March 1992 and February 1993, the study found that only six of the Palestinians were actually wanted fugitives. Furthermore, only two of the six were armed when killed. The others, it is stated, were suspected stone-throwers and masked youths who had been setting up roadblocks or scrawling anti-Israel graffiti, which were merely actions expressing their resistance to the occupation.

This policy and the relaxation of open fire regulations and restrictions have resulted in an intensified use of lethal force and of methods of repression against Palestinian civilians living under occupation. Consequently, an already appalling situation has declined to an even more dangerous and desperate level, and will only continue to worsen if it remains neglected.

On several previous occasions, on 1 April 1992, 24 April 1992 and 22 March 1993, we have called your attention to the abhorrent Israeli practice of using undercover army units to carry out summary executions of Palestinian civilians in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem. We have also made mention of several other reports that have been published on this pattern of intentional killing. At this time, we reiterate our call for the Security Council to take the necessary measures to put an end to such criminal actions and to provide international protection for the Palestinian people, in accordance with Security Council resolution 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990 and as expressed by you in your report to the Security Council dated 25 January 1993.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 34, 35, 85 and 86 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 22
THE SITUATION OF DEMOCRACY AND
HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 6 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the French and English texts of the statement on Haiti issued by the European Community and its member States on 6 July 1993 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 22, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement on Haiti issued by the European Community and its member States on 6 July 1993

The European Community and its member States welcome the agreement that was reached in New York on 3 July 1993 between President Aristide and the Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Army, which paves the way for the restoration of constitutional order and the return of President Aristide to Haiti.

They congratulate both the United Nations and the Organization of African States on the success represented by this agreement, and also Mr. Dante Caputo, the Special Representative of the Secretaries-General of these two organizations.

The European Community and its member States express their full support for this agreement. They urge all Haitian parties concerned to ensure that it is fully respected and implemented, so that a return to constitutional order takes place peacefully which would make it possible to lay the foundations for lasting national reconciliation.

The European Community and its member States reaffirm their desire to resume relations of cooperation with Haiti after the lifting of sanctions imposed by the Security Council.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 42 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 6 July 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of a statement dated 2 July 1993 of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey regarding the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 42 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tahsin BURCUOĞLU
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement dated 2 July 1993 of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Turkey on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The latest reports from Bosnia and Herzegovina indicate that the military attacks and the practice of "ethnic cleansing" against the Muslims in that country have reached extremely alarming proportions.

It is clear that the attacks are aimed at forcing the Bosnian Muslims to accept the so-called new peace plan designed to divide Bosnia and Herzegovina into three parts on an ethnic basis.

A member State of the United Nations and of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is being obliterated from history through the massacres taking place before our very eyes.

Those who are turning a blind eye to the genocide and those encouraging the aggressor will carry the moral burden before history and humanity.

For years to come, the Balkans, Europe and the whole world will have to bear the bitter results of the mistakes and crimes committed.

Never in history has peace prevailed where injustice, "ethnic cleansing" and racism were rewarded.

Turkey is strongly opposed to the disintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which would bring along the demise of international legitimacy and the basic principles of humanity.

If Bosnia and Herzegovina disintegrates, Europe will not be the same Europe, nor will the United Nations remain the same United Nations, for they shall no longer maintain any credibility.